

THE NEWS.

SATURDAY.

The President, according to last evening's dispatches, has adopted Secretary Windom's silver suggestion—to accept silver bullion and issue certificates thereon, said certificates to serve as currency. Whether he will send a message to congress on the subject is not certain, but it is certain that bills will be introduced in both house and senate embodying Secretary Windom's suggestions.

Yesterday was a warm, sunny day in New York, and the death rate ran up from 125 Wednesday and 165 Thursday to 220, with increased number of cases of pneumonia, bronchitis and consumption.

Jackson, the colored Australian pugilist, has cabled from London an acceptance of Sullivan's challenge to fight for \$5,000, and will sail for New York on the 15th.

Geo. M. Bane, of Lacon, has been appointed census agent to collect mortgage indebtedness statistics for the 9th Cong. Dist.

The wool growers yesterday continued their arguments for more tariff.

Irice is said to be in the lead at Columbus for the Ohio senatorship.

SUNDAY.

Dr. Paul Hoffman, of New York, assistant superintendent of schools, was taken with "the grip" four days ago. Yesterday he was found parading the halls of the flat in which he lived shooting a revolver, and later he was found doing the same thing on the street. He was clearly crazed by the attack of influenza. The death rate of that city is rapidly increasing. Friday's quota being 234, an unusually large number for this time of the year. In Boston the death rate has reached the unprecedented number of 327 for Friday, equal to 40.77 per 1,000. In Chicago all skeptical physicians at last admit that the genuine article is epidemic in that city.

The Ways and Means Committee were entertained yesterday by a linen manufacturer, who asked that the duty on flax be removed. He said the industry was practically dead and that if the duty was removed he, as a manufacturer, thought he could dispense with any duty on his production of linen. Here is an "infant industry" that is asking to be allowed to stand alone if only it can have free raw materials! Has Mr. Whitman been crazed by "the grip?"

The late ministry of Spain resigned this week. The event is the occasion of numerous stories of political plotting, which, if but partially true, indicate that the young king is growing up to manhood on the top of a powder mine. The late fire in the opera house at Madrid, which was supposed to be due to imperfections in the electric lighting apparatus, is now said to have been really a plot to murder the Queen Regent.

Granville Morous, of Cleveland, O., has been elected president of the Window Glass Workers' Association to succeed James Campbell. The contest for the place has been a very spirited one, and it is the first time any man outside of Pittsburgh has been elected to the place.

Mayor Cregier has issued an order prohibiting the shipping of "lumpy-jawed" cattle into Chicago. These cattle are diseased, and the mayor has put his foot down flat and will, if necessary, call on the entire police to stop it.

Texas has been, in the past twenty-four hours, visited by unprecedented rains, and several lines of railroad have been compelled to abandon their trains.

The weather for to-morrow threatens to be warmer, with rain and southerly winds.

TUESDAY.

The announcement is made at Chicago that John M. Clark, of the leather firm of Grey, Clark & Engle, is to be collector of the port at Chicago. Mr. Clark has not been much known as a practical politician since Carter Harrison beat him for mayor in 1882, and if he is actually appointed by the President there is quite sure to be a howl from the "rank and file" who have been waiting, oh, so long, for the wind to blow something in their direction.

Congress met yesterday at noon. There was no quorum in the Senate, but Senator Davis, of Minnesota, managed to interest the handful by asking the modest sum of \$6,422,979 for the improvement of certain creeks and waterpowers in his state.

There is a rumor to the effect that the Pope will appoint another American cardinal, Archbishop Ireland, of St. Paul, being suggested as the prelate to be honored.

The Ways and Means Committee yesterday listened to pleas for more duty on silks.

The hardest check yet shown at the tariff inquiry in Washington is that of the jute (binder twine) and the sugar trusts in asking for help from Congress.

COUNTY PRINTING.

The following resolution, presented by Supervisor Quam, of Mission, was adopted:

Resolved, That the proceedings of this session of the Board of Supervisors be printed in some weekly newspaper published in English in this county, and that it be let to the lowest responsible bidder, under direction of the county clerk, and that the publisher be required to mail a copy of said paper containing the proceedings to every elector of this county, whose name and address shall be furnished him by the supervisor or town clerk of any town in the county, and that said publisher be requested to preserve said list of names furnished for use in mailing future proceedings of this board; or in case the supervisor of any town would rather distribute them than furnish a list of the names, then the publisher shall send to such supervisor the number of copies that he may request.

And the clerk will to-morrow send out to publishers a copy of this resolution, asking them to send in sealed proposals for publishing the proceedings in accordance therewith. This is the sort of "specification" the county board furnishes when it asks for bids! It is like asking contractors to bid on building a court house without specifying the size, style or quality of material. If there is a publisher in the county who can make a bid on that work intelligently, he would be entitled to the job for his acumen alone!

But what a farce all this bidding is! The county advertises for bids for the county printing in accordance with a resolution of the county board passed a year ago last September, which says that the printer who "offers the best inducements" shall get the work. Thereupon the work was let by contract—last year to one printer and this year to another, all county officers being instructed to order work of the contractor; yet both years, because the county attorney did not happen personally to be friendly to the contractors, he takes the only jobs of both years in which there was anything like a fair profit to a third printer, who was not the contractor, never had been, and was beaten in the contest of bidding for the work of the county; and who charged for part of the work done at a rate nearly 10 per cent. higher than local commercial rates. It's lots of fun being a county contractor!

It is very true that the county attorney's work is not specifically mentioned in the contract, but the spirit of the contract and of the resolution of the board on which the contract is based would dictate that all the county work, except the publication of the board's proceedings, should go to the contractor, whoever he is. And a similar case in another county, put to a test, resulted in the payment of work done by other than the contractor out of the pocket of the county officer placing the order and not by the county treasury, the stationary committee having refused to audit bills payable to other than the regular contractor, even though the work was not specifically mentioned in the contract; and that was right, and the only decent way in which to treat the contractor.

No piece of foolishness, however, exceeds that which the board has indulged in of late touching the publication of the proceedings. For years the Ottawa papers (the only ones having necessarily a general county circulation) published the proceedings, and never a complaint of the service or of the price was made. When the Norton regime took hold, however, in order to get even with newspapers obnoxious to them, they began to ask for bids. A little one-shot concern in one corner of the county got the job. With a paper of no circulation beyond the limits of his town, the service, as any sensible man could have guessed, has been abominable. Not one voter in 100 has seen the proceedings of any session. Even the supervisors of adjoining towns stated on the board that not one voter in 10 in their own towns had seen the proceedings! That was cheapness—the result of placing as bidders papers with 300 to 400 circulation on a par with county seat papers having circulation of 1,800 to 2,000. By this kind of contract letting the board, perhaps, managed to save \$10 or \$15, and practically suppressed their official proceedings! But in order to save this amount the Stationary Committee had to be gotten together once or twice at \$2.50 a day for each member, and mileage—a cost of about \$25. In other words, the board skinned the printer out of \$15 and got no circulation for his proceedings, in order to spend \$25 on the members of its committee.

Now Mr. Quam, of Sheridan, proposes a new scheme to accomplish what had been accomplished satisfactorily for years, and could be accomplished to-day but for the fact that the board has been bamboozled by men who are simply working out a revenge on the Ottawa publishers who refused to see a statesman inside the skin of a monte-bank. Mr. Quam wants copies mailed to names to be furnished, etc. (as per resolution.) Mr. Quam does not know, nor did the board know (though they might have known if they had taken the trouble to enlighten themselves), that the Board of Supervisors of La Salle county will not be permitted to use a newspaper to defraud the government by mailing extra copies of a paper containing their proceedings at pound rates as sample copies, as they doubtless, ignorantly, supposed they would be able to do. Extra copies are not sample copies (Sec. 200, Postal Laws); therefore every extra copy of the proceedings mailed in Mr. Quam's way will cost the county at least 1c postage in addition to the charges for printing, addressing and wrapping up. When the FREE TRADER and *Republican* did this work for the county, they and the county papers taking the supplements circulated about 19,000 copies of the proceedings. This service cost, with but two exceptions (when the proceedings were very lengthy and a paper list was published in connection with them), an average of \$75 to \$78 a session. To do the same work in Mr. Quam's way will cost at least \$170 for postage alone!

Bye and bye, when the board comes to see what asses they have allowed Doe Norton et al. to make of them, they will get back to a sensible system of printing their proceedings according to law, and pay a decent price for the work. It is just possible, too, that when the board makes such an exhibition of common sense, it will have necessarily so far regained its own self-respect as to merit that of the public in general.

A BIG HUMBUG.

The biggest humbug of the day is the tariff inquiry now going on before the Ways and Means Committee at Washington. Even the Chicago *Tribune*, that which, since its last flop on the tariff question, no organ of the Republican party has been more zealous in its advocacy of the robber system, finds fault with Mr. McKinley for inviting none but protectionists to give testimony or make statements before the committee. But the truth is, it is not Mr. McKinley's fault. Whenever an opportunity is given, the whole brood that want protection gather around the committee like buzzards around a carrion, and squawk and howl for plunder, while the great body of the people, who have to stand the plucking, can't afford to flock to Washington, or to keep expensive lobbies there, to fight these birds of prey.

Yet it did happen the other day that Mr. McBeth, a Pittsburgh manufacturer of lamp chimneys, happened to be in Washington, and on the natural supposition that he belonged to the buzzard gang, was invited to appear before the committee and state the wants of his industry. He said all the glass men wanted was the removal of the tax of 24 per cent. on soda ash, 20 per cent. on potash, and 20 to 40 per cent. on a few other raw materials used in glass making. These removed, the glass industry needed no other protection. "Why, you don't mean to say," interrupted an astonished member of the committee, "that you would undertake to compete without any protection with the cheap product and labor of Europe and pay your present rate of wages?" "Yes, I do," said Mr. McBeth, "and pledge myself to pay higher wages." Mr. McBeth was shuffled out of the room as quickly as possible, and care will be taken by the gang that no others appear who hold such quixotic views.

The language of Mr. McBeth was exactly that of the wool manufacturers a few years ago, before they entered into their losing bargain with the Vermont and Ohio wool growers. "Give us free wool," said the Hazards, the Harrises, and other New England wool manufacturers, "and with free machinery and millhands, we ask no other protection." "But that will ruin the wool growers," was replied. "No it won't," they said; "on the contrary, with free foreign wools for mixing, we pledge ourselves to pay more for our home-grown wools than we can pay now." Yet in the mania to plunder the public under the name of protection, the plea of the wool manufacturers was unheeded, and they were compelled to enter into that baleful combination with the wool growers, through which half the woolen mills of the country have been closed, and the people pay twice as much for clothing as they ought to.

"An Old Neighbor" sends us for publication a protest against the manner in which that "common nuisance," the *Journal*, is treating Major Gibson, whom, as he justly says, "we have known as a gentleman whose integrity is above suspicion." The protest is hardly necessary, as no one pays any attention to an attack on the Major. If the reformer, Chawley Gibbs, a prominent member of the reform crowd *par excellence*, is doing his duty as chairman of the pauper committee, the Major, as county agent, who is held responsible to that committee, is regularly "investigated" at regular intervals of four times a year. It is safe to say of the Major, "He's all right," for isn't Chawley an expert boodler hunter? Isn't he credited with laying in wait for the Major's scalp itself? his eye having fixed upon the county agent's chair as about his size. "Our old neighbor" needn't be

alarmed. When the Major makes a "bad break" Chawley is quite sure to publish it to the world with a *face-fare* of brass, as before.

The fault is not to be found with the coal contract itself, but with the manner of handling the bids. If it was intended that LaSalle coal should be given the preference, it should have been so stated in the advertisement asking proposals, and then all bidders would have known what to bid against. It may, perhaps, be conceded that third vein coal is better for some purposes than the second or Streater coal, and that, as is also claimed, experience has shown that the county has saved money by the use of the LaSalle coal instead of Streater; but when bids are asked for coal supplies, with no specifications as to quality or plan of mining, the committee, in accepting a bid not the lowest, cannot expect to get off without a kick by the disappointed bidders. The whole proceeding was manifestly unfair to bidders on Streater coal.

Doe Norton failed to beat the sheriff out of his well-earned money yesterday, as will be seen by the proceedings elsewhere. It is a hopeful sign that the board had the temerity to treat the sheriff decently. "A laborer is worthy of his hire" even if he does happen to be sheriff of LaSalle county. It really is encouraging to find that the board is getting back to that point where it can be economical and just and at the same time decent enough to maintain its self-respect. And how it was able to do the latter during the flood-tide of the Norton regime, it must be confessed, it is difficult to imagine.

In the list of improvements in 1889 made in Ottawa, among other items, the Ottawa FREE TRADER gives 200 dwelling houses costing \$160,000, an average of \$8,000 each. Ottawa must have built some high-priced dwellings or else the FREE TRADER has told a whopper.—*Streater L-T.*

Boys in the primary classes of Ottawa's ward schools would make the cost of each dwelling about \$800, but the *Independent Times*, which is forced to run a lottery in order to get a subscription list, is, of course, not expected to know any too much about common division, though it ought to be well posted on "subtraction and silence."

Although Mrs. Harrison had her way in substituting her sister, Mrs. McKee, as first lady at the White House reception on New Year's, Mrs. Morton, who claims the place, had such a triumph in outshining Mrs. McKee by her superior toilette and personal attractions, that the Harrisons felt crushed. The remark is made that "Mrs. Morton appeared to be as pre-eminent in Washington society as Mr. Morton is as a progressive and public-spirited contributor to the bibulous advantages of the country's capital."

The case of Lord Salisbury leaves no doubt that the Russian gripe is highly infectious and is transmitted through the mails. He was prostrated with the ailment soon after opening and examining a package of dispatches transmitted from the foreign office in St. Petersburg, and when, a day later, the several documents were distributed among clerks in the foreign office, every one who touched them was also soon afterward seized with the malady.

President Harrison emphatically and indignantly denies that during his recent hunting trip down the Potomac he shot at a coon up a tree and brought down a pig. He says he shot at nothing but ducks on the wing or in the water, and pigs neither fly nor swim. Probably that with the necessity of "fortifying" against damp, chilly weather, some of the party may have been in a condition to disable them from telling a duck from a pig, and thus originated the story.

The Kendall County *Record* is very warm under the collar because Chase and Campbell slipped their halter and got away on bail before the Kendall county sheriff woke up sufficiently to take Sheriff Morrissey's hint to "get here." Brother Marshall ought to go up on the hill to the sheriff's office and give that gentleman a few pointers on "How to get a move on himself." He might be useful in the future.

The Agricultural Department at Washington reports the average yield of corn in the United States for 1889 at 27 bushels per acre, the largest rate of yield since 1880. The aggregate crop is figured at 2,112,802,000 bushels. Iowa has the largest yield and Illinois next. The aggregate of all cereals for the year is equal to 53 bushels per capita—enough, if each individual had his share, to make us all hog fat!

And now the medical savans maintain that the exceptional virulence and fatality attending the gripe in Paris is attributable to the visit of some 20,000,000 strangers to that city during the exposition, who left it in such a terribly insanitary condition as to turn the influenza into a virulent typhoid. If such is the effect of a rush of visitors on cleanly Paris, what may Chicago expect?

CASTORIA

for Infants and Children.

"Castoria is so well adapted to children that I recommend it as superior to any prescription known to me." H. A. ACHESON, M.D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Castoria cures Colic, Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Eructation, Kills Worms, gives sleep, and promotes digestion. Without injurious medication.

THE CASTORIA COMPANY, 77 Murray Street, N. Y.

THIS IS THE COCK THAT ROSE IN THE MORN THE DAY THAT SANTA CLAUS SOAP WAS BORN HE HAD RISEN EARLY TO TELL TO MANKIND THAT WONDERFUL SOAP TO SEEK AND TO FIND.

USE SANTA CLAUS SOAP. All grocers sell it.

THE WORLD IS WAKING UP TO THE VALUE OF SANTA CLAUS SOAP.

Made only by N.K. FAIRBANK & CO. CHICAGO.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

The *Journal* says it does not believe that County Agent Gibson is above suspicion, and "demands," &c., &c. This announcement will scare no one, not even Gibson, but as the celebrated "investigating committee" went over his affairs throughout along with the rest of the county officers a short while ago, and as the pauper committee, of which Chawley Gibbs is chairman, has gone over them four times a year since, isn't it about time the *Journal* overhauled some of its particular friends for dereliction of duty as committee-men if its suspicions be true? What does the County Board have committees for? Is the board giving the people the same old anti-boodler investigation "racket" of approving accounts without examining them or satisfying themselves of their accuracy? It is about time Chawley Gibbs came to the front. If Gibson has been "knocking down," mismanaging, and all that sort of thing, his principal, the pauper committee, had better rise and explain.

Some time ago the officers of the American Federation of Labor, having in mind the inauguration of the 8-hour movement in May next, sent out letters of enquiry to leading senators, representatives, business men and college professors, asking (1) whether working men should be required to work more than eight hours a day, and (2) what would be the probable effect of the change. The senators and representatives, to a man, replied that eight hours are enough and that the effect of the change would be beneficial. The college men and business men, who themselves generally work from 10 to 15 hours a day, are of various minds. The majority think the change should be made gradually, and that the change would be of doubtful benefit to the workman. It might quicken invention and so might be disastrous to any people adopting the system unless it were world-wide in its application. All concur, however, in conceding beneficial effects if the change now or in the near future is feasible.

The town of Windsor, Canada, last week elected Sol. White, a prominent local lawyer, Mayor on the district issue of annexation to the U. S. The sentiment in favor of annexation is said to be growing rapidly among the English speaking people of Canada, while the French contingent has for years inclined that way. Stephen A. Douglas said the manifest destiny of North America was an ocean bound republic, and the annexation of Canada would come pretty near to a realization of the dream.

One of the very few men who profit by the protected tariff who has had the courage and the candor to say that he can do without it if his own industry is not discriminated against, is glass manufacturer MacBeth, of Pittsburg, who declares that if he is given free raw materials he can compete with the world without the aid of protective taxation.

The Home Lodge No. 9, Degree of Honor, A. O. U. W., installed officers at a meeting Monday evening. Deputy Grand Mistress, Mrs. L. A. Rising, assisted by J. L. Piergue, as Past Grand Master Workman, Frank A. Frost, Past Master Workman, acting as guide. The following are the officers that were installed: Mrs. J. L. Piergue, P. C. Nellie Christman, C. H. Mrs. J. F. Richardson, C. H. Mrs. J. F. Flynn, C. C. Nellie Rising, Recorder. Miss Bertha Christman, Financier. Mrs. John S. Kerr, Receiver. Ola Frost, Inside Guard. Etta Kerr, Outside Guard. Mrs. Jas. Beck, First Maid of Honor. Mrs. Wm. Flynn, Second Maid of Honor. J. L. Piergue, Adviser of C. of H.

After the installation, a box social was held and a very pleasant evening was spent by everyone.

Florence Lodge No. 1, Daughters of Rebecca, installed the following officers Friday evening: Mrs. A. J. Bennett, P. G.; Miss Katie Vogel, N. G.; Miss Ora Frost, V. G.; Miss Debra Beers, Treas.; Mrs. Frank Frost, Rec.; Mrs. Brodbeck, Fin. Rec.; Mrs. J. L. Piergue, Conductor; Mrs. Moody, R. S. N. G.; Mrs. J. Bane, L. S. N. G.; Mrs. Jos. Wilson, R. S. N. G.; Mrs. Gleim, L. S. V. G.; Mrs. Vogel, L. W.; and Mrs. Dropp, O. W.

The County Board of the A. O. H. held a meeting in the hall of the order in Cameron block Sunday afternoon. There were forty delegates present. LaSalle, Seneca, Utica, Peru, Streater, Mendota and other cities in the county were represented. County Delegate Vaughney, of Seneca, presided, and the meeting was called to order at 2 o'clock. Owen J. O'Mally, of Peru, county secretary, and William P. Leahy, of Ottawa, county treasurer, were present. Alexander Vaughney, of Seneca, C. D., was selected to represent the LaSalle county branch at the national convention of the A. O. H., to be held in June at Rock Island.

This order is in a flourishing state at present, and the membership list is increasing rapidly. There are two divisions in this city, Nos. 7 and 9.

A Lady in South Carolina Writes. My labor was shorter and less painful than on two former occasions; physicians astonished. I thank you for "Mother's Friend." It is worth its weight in gold. Address The Bradford Reg. Co., Atlanta, Ga., for particulars. Sold by all druggists.

The new aqueduct is rapidly approaching completion. Five of the eight spans—that is, the upper and lower stringers, cross-braces, floor beams, etc., have all been put in place, and are ready for the casing. The hands, about twenty carpenters and fifteen helpers, are at work on the sixth span, which will be completed to-day, and the other two will be finished this week. The structure will be finished about February 1. The former aqueduct, that is, the wooden portion, was built eleven years ago by Mr. E. Barber, of Marshall. He was allowed to use a portion of the old iron—rods, bolts, etc., and, the weather being unfavorable, it required several months to complete the job. The new aqueduct is all new, every piece of timber, bolt, bar and nut being brand new. It is made of heavier timber, and will be by far the best of all its predecessors.

Carey & Trainor is the name of a new law firm. Mr. Trainor was until very recently assistant state's attorney. Mr. Carey is a young man of ability. No doubt the partnership will be a strong one.